diseases wherein the function of CF6 in the blood is attenuated to a level undesirable for living body. Namely, these diseases are not always restricted to those wherein the blood CF6 level is lower than the level of normal persons. Namely, diseases associated with the excess of $PGI_2$ and diseases associated with the accentuation of the $cPLA_2$ function or $cPLA_2$ hyperfunction fall within this category. Examples thereof include brain infarction, acute pancreatitis, asthma, ARDS and rheumatoid arthritis.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 17 and 19 as follows (see the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the below claims):

Claim 3. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 1 wherein said disease associated with the excess of CF6 in the blood is heart infarction, angina pectoris, heart failure, pulmonary hypertension, hypertension, cerebrovascular disorder, arteriosclerosis obliterans, arteriosclerosis, hyperlipelflia, diabetes, bronchial disease, stomach ulcer, eclampsia of pregnancy, hemolytic-uremic syndrome or thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura.

Claim 6. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 4 wherein said disease associated with the shortage of CF6 in the blood is an inflammatory disease such as brain

infarction, acute pancreatitis, asthma, ARDS or rheumatoid arthritis.

Claim 7. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment of a disease associated with the shortage of $PGI_2$ and/or a disease associated with the attenuation of the $Ca^{2+}$-dependent cytoplasmic $PLA_2$ ($cPLA_2$) hypofunction, which comprises a CF6 inhibitor as the active ingredient.

Claim 9. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 7 wherein said disease associated with the shortage of $PGI_2$ and/or the disease associated with the the $cPLA_2$ hypofunction is heart infarction, angina pectoris, heart failure, pulmonary hypertension, hypertension, cerebrovascular disorder, arteriosclerosis obliterans, arteriosclerosis, hyperlipemia, diabetes, bronchial disease, stomach ulcer, eclampsia of pregnancy, hemolytic-uremic syndrome or thrombocytopenic purpura.

Claim 10. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment of a disease associated with the excess of $PGI_2$ and/or a disease associated with the $cPLA_2$ hyperfunction, which comprises a CF6 activator or CF6 as the active ingredient.

Claim 12. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 10 wherein said disease associated with the excess of $PGI_2$ and/or a disease associated with the $cPLA_2$ hyperfunction is an inflammatory disease such as brain infarction, acute pancreatitis, asthma, ARDS or rheumatoid arthritis.

Claim 17. (Amended) A diagnostic method of judging the susceptibility to a disease associated with an increase or decrease in the CF6 level in the blood, which involves the step of determining the presence/absence of a mutation in a gene sequence in the CF6 gene region in the genome of a subject.

Claim 19. (Amended) The diagnostic method as claimed in claim 17 wherein said disease with an increase or decrease in the CF6 level in the blood is a disease associated with the $cPLA_2$ hyperfunction or the $cPLA_2$ hypofunction.

**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment revises the multiple dependent claims 3, 6, 9 and 12 to be single dependent claims in order to reduce the filing fee. The claims have been further amended as shown above to better recite patentable features of the present invention, the hypofunction and hyperfunction being supported in the present specification, respectively for example at page 5, line 4 and at page 18, line 10.